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## JUST THE FAX

Number of pages including cover sheet: 1

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Date: July 18, 2003

USCG-2003-14749-35

TO: Docket Management Facility

RE: Washington State Ferry Security

Phone:

Fax Phone: (202) 493-225 (

FROM: Mike Shelton

Island County Commissioner

Phone: (360) 679-7354

Fax: (360)679-7381

REMARKS:

Urgent

For your review

Reply ASAP

Please Comment

To Whom it May Concern:

I am the county commissioner representing District One of Island County, Washington. The primary access to the South end of my district is the Clinton/Mukilteo route of the Washington State Ferry. The ferry system, contrary to cruise lines, represents the lifeline of my community with the mainland in terms of residents, tourism and commerce. With this background, security of the system is both very important and also has the possibility of becoming a serious problem. It is vitally important that we protect the infrastructure from terrorism but also that it is accomplished in the least obtrusive methods possible. During peak periods of travel our residents already experience significant delays and searches of all people and automobiles during a red alert would cripple peoples ability to enjoy their homes and benefit from commerce. It simply would not be workable. I understand the difficult job that this entails. On the one hand people want to be safe but they do not want to have their lives disrupted. My request would be that you attempt to strike a reasonable balance. Thank you,

Mike Shelton, District 1

Island County Commissioner

P. O. Box 5000

Coupeville, WA 98239